are debarred to undertake works under JRY, EAS etc., in tea garden areas, without prior permission of tea garden owners; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) and (c) The Government of West Bengal have intimated that Gram Panchayats having one or more tea garden areas within their territorial jurisdictions, are empowered like any other Panchayats, to prepare plan for development of the community as also socio-economic upliftment of the individual members of the community and to implement schemes in pursuance of such plans. In furtherance of its objective, they may utilise, *inter-alia,* any fund placed with them under centrally sponsored schemes like JGSY etc. However, since the tea garden land is under leasehold of its owner/management and also since it is not advisable to impair or jeopardize in any way the activities relating to production of tea, a major export commodity, the Panchayat bodies are required to obtain prior consent of the tea garden management for implementing any land-based scheme.

The State Government has also intimated that in other areas as well, the Panchayats cannot implement any development schemes on utilising any land under private ownership without the consent of the owner. The State Government are not aware of any adverse reaction to the guidelines issued in this respect.

Drinking Water facility in Orissa

1219. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages or hamlets have no drinking water facility in the country as a whole and in Orissa in particular; and

(b) what is the action plan and time period to complete Government's programme to give tube wells to each and every village and hamlet of the country as a whole and Orissa in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As per the latest information furnished by the State Governments, as on 1.4.2000, there are 27443 rural habitations which have no drinking water facilities. As per the information furnished by the Government of Orissa, 448 rural habitations of Orissa do not have drinking water facilities as on 1.4.2000.

(b) As per the Action Plans prepared by the State Governments including Orissa, in consonance with the National Agenda for Governance of the Government, all the remaining Not Covered and Partially Covered rural habitations would be fully covered with drinking water facilities in five years, subject to availability of funds.

Grants-in-aid to NGOs BY CAPART

1220. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise fund earmarked for grants-in-aid to the NGO, amount sanctioned and actual amount disbursed, State-wise, by the North-East Zonal Office of CAPART since 1996;

(b) the year-wise amount refunded, reasons for non-refund, non-utilization and very poor performance; and

(c) the list of expert persons in the State level sanctioning committees with direct experience of working with voluntary bodies and criteria followed?